

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 2 and 6-10 are currently pending in this application, as amended. By the present amendment, claim 1 has been amended. Applicants submit that no new matter has been introduced into the application by the present amendments.

Telephone Interview

The undersigned discussed this application with the Examiner during telephone interviews on July 23 and August 13, 2008. During the telephone interviews, the limitations in claim 1 of the present application which require that "all of the weft yarns comprise pairs of intrinsic weft binders" and that "for each pair of the intrinsic weft binder yarns, the first and second members of the pair follow complementary paths in which the two pair members define a single continuous weft yarn path in both the PS layer and the MS layer" were discussed. As shown in the marked-up version of Figure 1 of the present invention, below, this results in a single weft yarn path being defined on the PS and the MS by the alternating portions of each intrinsic weft yarn pair.

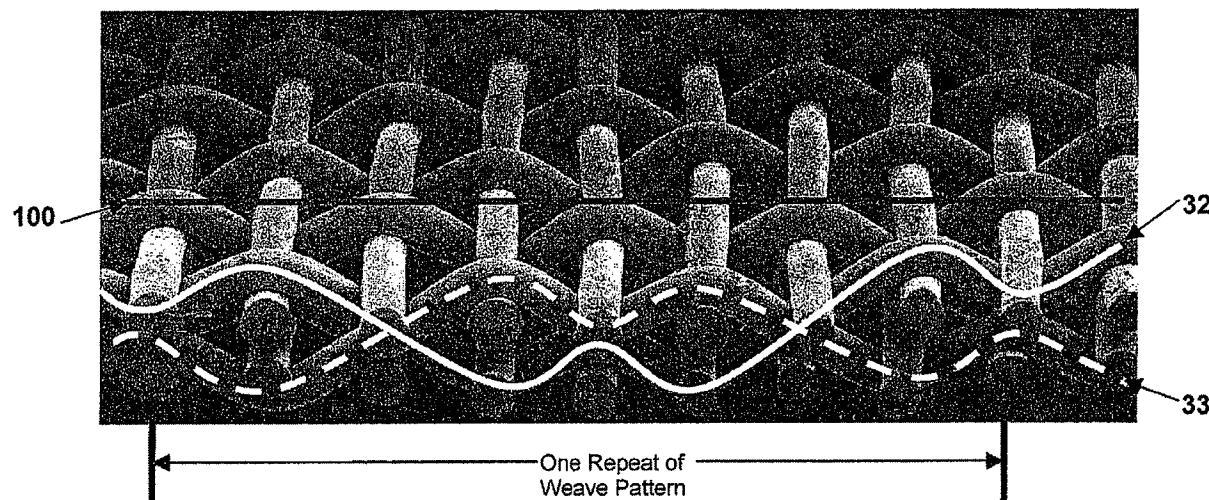


Figure 1 with one pair of intrinsic binder weft yarns 32 and 33 shown forming a single combined weft path.

In comparison to Figure 7 of U.S. 9,921,750 to Todd, also reproduced below, it is clear that the Todd weft yarns 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 are not woven in pairs to form a single combined path, and each of the weft yarns of Todd runs along its own individual path. Thus, no single continuous weft yarn path is defined by any pair of intrinsic weft binder yarns in Todd.

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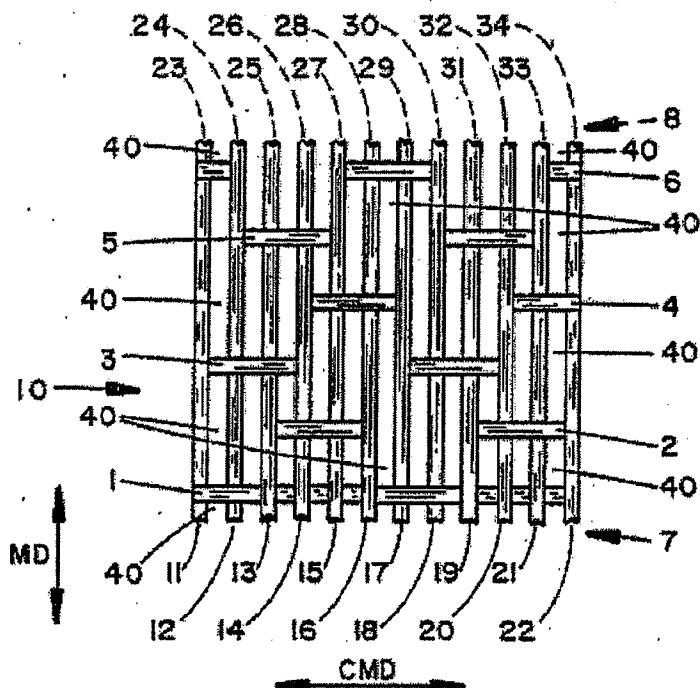


FIG. 7

Todd Figure 7 which shows intrinsic weft binders, but not woven in pairs to form a single combined weft path.

During the interview, the Examiner indicated that he appreciated this difference between the present invention and Todd, and several options for clearly defining this in claim 1 were discussed. However, no specific agreement was reached with respect to the allowability of claim 1 based on any of the proposals

discussed. The Examiner graciously suggested that he would contact the undersigned after reviewing this amendment if further clarification was required as it appeared clear that Applicants' invention is different than the construction disclosed in Todd.

The undersigned wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the telephone interview.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103

In the Action, claims 1, 2 and 6-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over the combination of U.S. 4,921,750 to Todd in view of any one of U.S. 4,376,013 to Wang or U.S. 5,555,917 to Quigley.

As discussed above, the present invention is clearly differentiated over Todd in that Todd fails to disclose all of the weft yarns comprise pairs of intrinsic weft binder yarns and that for each pair of the intrinsic weft binder yarns, the first and second members of the pair follow complementary paths in which the two pair members define a single continuous weft yarn path in both the PS layer and the MS layer whereby when either the first or second member passes from the PS layer to the MS layer, the other member of the pair passes from the MS layer to the PS layer at an exchange point located between at least one common pair of warp yarns.

It is clear that Todd lacks these requirements as can be seen from Todd, Figure 7, provided above. Neither U.S. 4,376,013 or U.S. 5,555,917 address this deficiency. Accordingly, claim 1 should be patentable over Todd.

Claims 2 and 6-10 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and should be similarly patentable.

Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place the present application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's

convenience.

In view of the foregoing Amendments and Remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 1, 2 and 6-10, is in condition for allowance, and a Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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